

REMARKS

Claims 3-4, 6, 12 and 16 are canceled.

Claims 1-2, 5, 7-11, 13-15, 17-24 are pending.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-11, 13-15 and 17-24 are rejected.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-11, 13-15 and 17-24 are cancelled, without prejudice.

New claims 25-37 are added.

No new matter is added.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 12, 5, 8-11, 14-15, 17-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,787,402 to Potter (“Potter”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,014,643 to Minton (“Minton”).

Claim 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Potter and Minton as applied to claims 5 & 11 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,412,287 to Braddock (“Braddock”).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Applicant does not acquiesce in the interpretation of the rejected claims or the cited references by the Examiner, to facilitate the allowance of this case, claims 1, 2, 5, 7-11, 13-15 and 17-24 are cancelled, without prejudice. Therefore, the rejections are rendered moot.

Also, new claims 25-37 are added to further clarify the patentable subject matter of the claimed invention.

The cited references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of new claims 25-37. Further, as evidence to commercial success or unexpected benefits of the claimed invention, applicant hereby submits a copy of the license agreements between the applicant and the licensees and also the translation thereof.

At least for the reasons stated above, the rejections do not present a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Therefore, new claims 25-37 are patentable.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 25-37 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

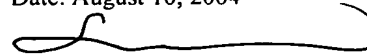
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Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

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Expires: July 16, 2005


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